

THE TRIBUNE'S FOREIGN NEWS

UNIONIST FIGHT ON
PARLIAMENT BILL

Liberals Assured of the Measure's Passage on Second Reading in the Commons.

APATHY OF THE NATION

Efforts of the Conservatives to Inveigle the Premier Into an Agreement for a Second Conference.

[By Cable to The Tribune.]
London, Feb. 25.—Full steam ahead is now the coalition password. The passage on second reading of the Parliament bill is assured by the full strength of the majority obtained in December, and no amendments will be accepted in the committee stage. The government has the inestimable advantage of a superior logical position, its chief measure was submitted to the country, and the coalition majority is proof that the electorate favors this method of regulating the relations between the two houses.

The ministers would be guilty of a breach of faith if they consented to any material modification of the Parliament bill. They have the unwavering support of their followers and are fighting a winning battle in the Commons. If the Prime Minister has received in advance guarantees for the creation of five hundred peers, as is generally believed by the Radical side, the attack on the legislative powers of the privileged order promises to prove irresistible.

The Unionists are not going down, however, without exhausting the resources of resistance. Their present purpose is to outmaneuver the ministers and draw them into a conference. They are attempting at the outset to entice the Prime Minister into a full explanation of the failure of the first conference, when there had been a close approach to an agreement. This is an ingenious device for a renewal of the negotiations for the substitution of a joint session and a referendum for the Parliament bill. The Prime Minister, when Mr. Lawson questioned him on Monday, only needs to repeat that his lips are sealed by the pledges of absolute confidence exchanged when the conference met for the last time.

The work of the negotiators cannot be taken up at the point where its activities were suspended. A new situation must be created by the action of the Lords in setting their house in order. This has been the view of an influential section of the Unionists in the Commons, and Lord Lansdowne, with Lords Curzon and Rosebery and Selborne and Milner behind him, is endeavoring to carry it out. These ingenious tactics are designed to substitute for the preamble of the Parliament bill a complete outline of reform of the upper house and to supplement the Radical legislation with a referendum clause. Lord Lansdowne and Mr. Balfour expect with these two proposals to drag the government into a second conference, where a settlement by the consent of both parties can be arranged.

A referendum clause can be easily framed, but the problem of reconstituting the upper house is a complex one. Lord Curzon's scheme would leave the Unionists in undisputed possession of the upper house and would be promptly rejected by the coalition majority in the Commons. There seems to be only a faint chance of modifying it so as to satisfy the groups which now have the dominating influence by the grace of the electoral college.

The most remarkable feature of this anomalous political situation is the apathy of the nation. The most momentous constitutional changes are proposed, and neither the masses nor the classes seem to care what happens. The members on the opposing benches may work themselves up to a white heat in debating the Parliament bill, but there is no excitement outside. The conditions of the reform bill of 1832 are not reproduced. It is Coronation Year, and there is a general conviction that the country will pull through somehow and that a settlement will be reached long before the King goes to India, if not before the Imperial Conference meets.

A STEEL PLANT IN BRAZIL

Concession to Citizens—Imports from United States May Suffer.

Rio de Janeiro, Feb. 25.—President Ponce de Leon today decreed granting two Brazilian capitalists a twenty-five year concession for a 100,000-ton steel plant in the State of Minas Geraes, with a subvention of \$3 a ton on ingots, \$3 a ton on rails, plates and structural material and \$10 a ton on certain other material.

The government is pledged to take 60,000 tons annually, and it is restricted from buying foreign-made material, unless the inspectors prove that the material made at the plant is inferior. The holders of the concession are exempted from duty on coal and coke and will receive preferential rates on the government railroads.

MANY HOMELESS NEAR MANILA

Three Hundred Native Dwelling Houses Burned in Tondo District.

Manila, Feb. 25.—Three hundred native dwelling houses in the Tondo district, a suburb of Manila, were burned today. The Mary Johnston Charity Hospital was badly damaged, half of the building being destroyed. The patients were removed unhurt.

Tondo is inhabited by laboring classes and fishermen. The houses are mostly made of cane and nipa.

DINNER FOR LESLIE COMBS.

Lima, Peru, Feb. 25.—President Leguia gave a dinner at his private residence last night in honor of Leslie Combs, the retiring American Minister. Only intimate friends and official associates of the President and the diplomat were present.

LOSS OF FISHERMEN DOUBTED.
Helsingfors, Finland, Feb. 25.—No trustworthy news has reached here regarding the report that the material made at the new plant in Iceland in the Gulf of Finland. An icebreaker left here this morning for Laysan Island.

RUSSIAN CONSULS IN MONGOLIA.
St. Petersburg, Feb. 25.—China, through her minister here, has given verbal assurance to the Russian government that no consular will be placed in its way for the immediate appointment of consuls in Mongolia.

OFFICES OPEN TO WOMEN

Norway Makes Further Concessions.

Christiania, Feb. 25.—The Norwegian Cabinet has adopted a resolution providing for the admission of women to all state offices, except those having to do with the cabinet and the military, diplomatic and consular services and the Church.

A NEW OPERA BY DE LARA

"Solea," Given at Rouen, Warmly Praised by Paris Critics.

[By Cable to The Tribune.]
Paris, Feb. 25.—"Solea," a lyric drama in four acts, the music composed by Isidore de Lara and the verse written by Jean Richepin, produced this afternoon at the Théâtre des Arts at Rouen, is a pleasing and successful romantic opera and is by far the best of De Lara's musical works. There are several strong dramatic situations and the orchestration is at times poignant and emotional. The action passes at the island of Rhodes in the middle of the sixteenth century, when the Christian knights were conquered by the Turks and the island fortress was captured. The heroine, Solea, and Lionel, the hero, in this lyric romance are characters whose functions are not unlike those of Kundry and Parsifal in the legend of the Grail.

De Lara's music and Richepin's dramatic poem received the enthusiastic applause of the Parisian critics and of the Rouen public.

"MERRY WIVES" IN LONDON

An Excellent Impersonation of Falstaff by Mr. Asche.

[By Cable to The Tribune.]
London, Feb. 25.—A continuous round of new plays during the week has been brought to a close with a revival of "The Merry Wives of Windsor" at the Garrick Theatre. This has put Oscar Asche in direct competition with Sir Herbert Tree as Falstaff. It is an excellent performance, revealing the dull, degenerate Falstaff of Elizabethan comedy rather than the sharp witted satirist of Shakespearean histories. The effects are broadly humorous, and Sir Herbert Tree's excessive display is avoided.

Lily Bratton and Constance Robertson are handsome and vivacious as the Merry Wives, but are below the level of Ellen Terry and Mrs. Kendal in Sir Herbert's wonderful production. The substitution of winter for summer is one of the scenic novelties. The revival of the play has been welcomed with every sign of popular enthusiasm.

DEPOSITORS DEMAND MONEY

Thousands of Poor Women Besiege Bank in Berlin.

Berlin, Feb. 25.—Depositors of the Norden Savings Bank, a run on which institution yesterday afternoon caused much excitement, continued to clamor for their money today. A placard posted on the bank's doors, which were kept tightly shut, informed the depositors that all accounts would be settled by Christmas.

The rush of thousands of women of the poorer classes to draw out their family savings was caused by rumors of extensive losses through speculation. The managers of the bank, which is one of the largest and most popular of the private savings institutions in Berlin, assert that the depositors are fully secured. This incident was without significance on the Bourse.

MR. KERENS'S RECEPTION

Leading Austrians Visit Home of American Ambassador.

Vienna, Feb. 25.—Although Ambassador Kerens has been the American Ambassador to Austria-Hungary since last April, it was not until tonight that Austrian society was formally presented to the American Ambassador and Mrs. Kerens, at an official reception held at the embassy in the Hain Gasse. The delay was due to the fact that Mr. Kerens was not able to find a home for the embassy until last August, and the reception had to be put off until the next season.

There is no court in Europe where diplomatic etiquette is more precise than in Vienna. Tonight's reception, while called the American Ambassador's, was really a court function. Everything is arranged by the court. The Lord Chamberlain's department sent out the invitations, eighteen hundred of them, to favored persons, whose names are in the privileged book kept in the Hofburg. The ambassador is not consulted and he cannot invite any one.

A guard of honor lined the entry to the embassy as well as the hall and the main entrance. Guests were escorted to the corners of the streets leading to the embassy. The guests were received at the head of the stairs by a court chamberlain and his wife, who presented them to the ambassador and Mrs. Kerens. In accordance with etiquette, the first to arrive was Prince Montenegro, Lord High Chamberlain. He came as the personal representative of the Emperor, and until he had come and gone no other guest might enter. The guests included all the highest officials and nobles in the land, outside of the archdukes and ambassadors, who do not attend these receptions.

FRACONIA ON MAIDEN VOYAGE

Big Boston Cunard Liner Carries 1,000 Passengers.

Liverpool, Feb. 25.—The Cunard steamship Fraconia, which was launched in July, sailed today on her maiden voyage to the Liverpool-Boston service. She carried nearly one thousand passengers. Though not as large as the Lusitania and the Mauretania, the Fraconia is a big vessel, being 625 feet in length and having a net tonnage of 18,000.

FINLEY ENDS PARIS LECTURES

After Week's Rest He Will Speak at Provincial Universities.

Paris, Feb. 25.—President John H. Finley of the College of the Holy Cross ended his series of the Hyde Foundation lectures at the Sorbonne today. The course has been one of uncommon interest, and the lecturer was congratulated and cordially thanked by his French colleagues. After a week's rest President Finley will begin his lectures at the provincial universities, speaking successively at Dijon, Lyons, Grenoble, Montpellier, Toulouse, Bordeaux, Poitiers, Rennes, Caen, Lille and Nancy.

GENERAL STRIKE IN NAPLES

Naples, Feb. 25.—The strike of the small tradesmen, which was begun a few days ago, threatens to become general on Monday. The object of the strike is to induce the government to revoke measures threatening employment from Naples to the United States, which were taken because of the prevalence of cholera. It is now submitted by the strikers that the cause for such measures has ceased.

A GAY SEASON IN LONDON

King George Showing Interest in the Social Side of His Reign.

THE VISITS OF ROYALTY

Another Shade of Garter Blue Chosen—Fewer Dances—The Decline of Bridge.

[By Cable to The Tribune.]
London, Feb. 25.—The King has thrown himself with hearty interest into social and ceremonial functions. The levees at St. James's Palace are larger and more stately than ever before, and the dinner parties at Buckingham Palace have seldom been rivalled in splendor. He is helping, as far as the lapsing period of mourning will permit, the interests of the London tradesmen, who are expecting the most profitable business season on record.

There are many contradictory announcements, but it is probable that the King and Queen will not be in London after the end of June until they return in October for their journey to India. They will go from Windsor in the first week of July to Wales, Ireland and Scotland.

The King, without having his father's genius for detail in ceremonial functions, supervises them with painstaking care. He has ordered a reversion to bright blue in the ribbons of the Order of the Garter. His father had favored the darker shade as more historic, but decorative artists and women of fashion have complained that the change was unsatisfactory. The lighter Garter Blue will impart additional brightness to the coronation tableau.

The pre-coronation season is slackening with the approach of Lent. If dinner parties continue on a large scale and political receptions are well attended, dances for young people are smaller and less brilliant.

The reaction against excessive bridge play is unabated. It is not because Father Va shan and other moralists have preached against it, but because the King and Queen have set their faces against it.

Westminster Abbey will be closed after Ash Wednesday until August.

AID FOR ROTHSCHILD YACHT

French Minister to Cuba Sends Powerful Steamer—Tug Sails.

Havana, Feb. 25.—F. A. Souharrat, the French Minister to Cuba, today dispatched the powerful passenger steamer Cosme Herrera to render assistance to Baron Edmond de Rothschild's steam yacht Atmiah, which was reported by wireless last yesterday as ashore off Cape San Antonio. The baron, who is a member of the Rothschild banking house of Paris, and a party of friends are on board.

The yacht was on the way from Jamaica for this port when she struck about twelve miles from the cape. She was reported last night as in no immediate danger. If necessary the steamer will take off the cruising party and the crew. The Cosme Herrera did not get away until this afternoon, being delayed for some time by the necessity of coaling.

The steamer is expected to reach the yacht Sunday morning. The weather is excellent, and the Atmiah seems to be in no immediate danger. The vessel lies about three hundred feet from shore, and no trouble is expected in clearing her.

Baron de Rothschild sent messages of assurance to his relatives today telling them there was no cause for anxiety.

Kingston, Jamaica, Feb. 25.—The wrecking steamer Premier sailed from here this afternoon for Cape San Antonio to aid in the saving of the Rothschild yacht Atmiah.

NEW PARAGUAYAN REVOLT

Political Situation There Involved for Some Time.

Buenos Ayres, Feb. 25.—Advices received here today state that another revolutionary movement has been begun in Paraguay.

The political situation in Paraguay has been involved for some time. Early in the present year Colonel Alberto Jara, the Minister of War, got the upper hand of the government, and forced the resignation of President Manuel Condra and Vice-President Juan Guana. On January 19 the Paraguayan Congress accepted the resignations and elected Jara President of the republic. Jara received a good majority, but the choice was not unanimous.

Since that time the news from Asunción, the capital, has been censored, but advices from Buenos Ayres have stated that Jara was unable to maintain the support of a majority in Congress, and that certain deputies made trouble by inquiring about his employ, end of national funds while Minister of War. Two weeks ago advices from the same sources set forth that Jara had dissolved Congress, established a dictatorship and proclaimed Señor Crtia, who was Minister of Finance in the Cabinet of President Condra, President of the republic. Jara, it was said, had returned to the post of Minister of War.

A DEADLOCK IN HONDURAS

Peace Conference Fails to Agree on a New President.

Puerto Cortes, Honduras, Feb. 25 (via wireless to New Orleans).—The peace conference between the enemies of Provisional President Bonilla and President Davila still is deadlocked. Bonilla is contending for the selection for temporary president of one of his three men suggested, alleging that each is non-partisan. He objects to the three men suggested by the Bonilla envoy on the ground that each is a strong partisan of Bonilla.

Dr. Membrillo is contending for the selection of one of the three names suggested by him. He asserts the three men suggested by Bonilla are anti-Bonilla men. Mr. Davila is hopeful, however, that the conference will agree among themselves, and he is deaf to their requests that he select a provisional president. It seems that Fortin is the least objectionable of the candidates suggested by Bonilla.

The next meeting of the conference is scheduled for Monday.

GERMAN CROWN PRINCE SAILS

Bombay, Feb. 25.—Crown Prince Frederick William of Germany sailed for home today on the Kaiser's yacht.

STOCKS RISE IN ENGLAND

Economy and Better Management Predicted for U. S. Lines.

ADVANCE IN HOME RAILS

Commerce Commission's Ruling, However, May Retard Borrowing Operations.

[Marketgram to The Tribune.]
London, Feb. 25.—The unwarranted depression in American railway shares on the Stock Exchange here has quickly been followed by strong buying and a substantial recovery in prices today. This movement is in sympathy with the increased demand for English railway shares. Investors were incredulous for many months, although there was practical evidence of the introduction of many economies and improved prospects of traffic and trade. Financial writers and stock brokers agreed that the values of railway stocks must rise, but they could not convince investors that a material change was impending shortly.

The public has gone from one extreme to the other. Operators and investors who would not look at home rails a few months ago are now climbing over one another's shoulders in order to get into the windows of the Stock Exchange. The results of economical management and appreciation of capital value, and an elastic buying movement has set in which is apparently justified by market conditions and the heavy traffic of coronation year.

Jobbers in American rails are forecasting a similar movement as the direct consequence of enforced economies and notwithstanding the Interstate Commerce Commission's refusal to sanction freight rate advances, there are more buyers than sellers of American securities today in England. One reason is the conviction of well informed capitalists that President Taft's trade agreement with Canada will be adopted, and that it will largely increase railway freight traffic.

It is admitted by American bankers here that borrowing operations will be retarded by the decision, and that railway corporations will not be helped in obtaining money in Europe for improvements which are urgently needed. Money is scarce rather than abundant in the London market, even for the ordinary requirements of business.

PARIS BOURSE DEPRESSED

Political Agitation and Foreign Action the Causes.

[By Cable to The Tribune.]
Paris, Feb. 25.—The revival in the Chamber of Deputies of the Radical agitation against the Briard Cabinet, on account of its conciliatory policy toward the religious societies and because of its moderation in the application of the church association laws, causes depression on the Bourse, where the outlook for home politics is felt to be uncertain and liable to disagreeable surprises. This despondency is increased by the favorable reception by the Reichstag of the new German army bill providing for a gradual increase of the peace strength during the next five years.

Besides this, the refusal of the Interstate Commerce Commission to allow freight rates to be raised caused a sharp decline in the prices of all American securities, notwithstanding the optimistic statements of leading Paris bankers that the ground upon which the commission based its decision was the extremely prosperous condition of the railroad industry.

There is a reaction all along the line in foreign government securities and a renewed sagging in Russian industrial stocks. Meanwhile, the situation is one of expectancy, with very little business being done.

NICARAGUAN PRISONER SAFF

Washington Hears Estrada Won't Follow Zelaya's Example.

Washington, Feb. 25.—There is no danger of the Estrada administration in Nicaragua following in the footsteps of Zelaya in ruthlessly killing prisoners. The State Department has had this assurance from Estrada's Minister of Foreign Affairs, through Minister Northcott. Mr. Northcott had been instructed to inquire into the truth of a story that Rodolfo Esposino, formerly Nicaraguan Minister for Foreign Affairs and the last of the ministers accredited to the United States, was in danger of being executed because of his alleged implication in a plot to blow up the arsenal in Managua. That report came to the State Department from the Grand Lodge of Masons in Costa Rica.

Mr. Northcott reported that, while Esposino was imprisoned, pending an investigation of the explosion of the government arsenal, he had been accused by the Minister for Foreign Affairs that even if confirmed, Esposino would not be executed, and that meanwhile he was not incommunicado and every privilege was being allowed him.

OPERATES ON HIMSELF

Under New Anesthetic, Surgeon Wields Knife for an Hour.

Paris, Feb. 25.—Alexander Fzadon, a twenty-six-year-old Roumanian surgeon in Paris, is the talk of Paris today for an act of cool heroism.

He has been studying a new anesthetic the action of which he calls rachi-stychno-stomatinism. It leaves the patient insensible, but suppresses all sensibility, and Mr. Fzadon intends to make his discovery the subject of the medical essay which he will present at his medical final examination, which he is to pass in a few weeks.

Mr. Fzadon had been suffering from hernia and an operation became necessary, and he determined to try his new anesthetic and to test its efficacy by operating on himself.

The anesthetic was administered and the young doctor sat down at the operating table and after calmly performing the operation stitched up the wound and went to bed. The operation took an hour to perform. He is now in a fair way to recovery.

LARGEST SUBMARINE LAUNCHED

Paris, Feb. 25.—A submarine, the Mariotte, of 1,100 tons displacement, described as the largest submarine in the world, has just been launched at Cherbourg.

The Mariotte should have been launched long ago, as she was laid down in 1905, but a hitch in supplying the electric motors, which are to develop 80 horsepower, caused a delay. The new submarine is to have six torpedo tubes and a complement of thirty men. When moving on the surface it is to be driven by petrol motors, which will be replaced by the electric motors when it is submerged.

GREATER FRENCH NAVY

National Approval of M. Delcasse's Accepted Plan.

[By Cable to The Tribune.]
Paris, Feb. 25.—France has at last become alive to the necessity of putting her navy on an effective basis. The enthusiasm with which the Chamber received the important speech of M. Delcasse, president of the Naval Commission, in favor of naval reorganization leaves no doubt as to the popularity of the naval policy of the government.

It is accepted by the highest naval authorities here that one of the unwritten laws on which the Anglo-French entente cordiale depends is the obligation of France to keep her navy strong enough to command alone and unaided the naval defence of the Mediterranean, while the British navy undertakes that of the French Atlantic and Channel coasts.

The reorganization plan adopted by the Chamber of Deputies by a vote of 461 against 76, which was the occasion of a great ovation to M. Delcasse, will enable the French fleet in three years to be more powerful in the Mediterranean than the combined fleets of Austria, Italy and Turkey. Moreover, this patriotic measure is equally popular outside the Chamber, where it elicits almost unanimous approval.

CALL FOR ANOTHER CRUISER

British Minister at Hayti Alarmed—Attempt to Slay Simon.

Kingston, Jamaica, Feb. 25.—The British Minister at Hayti has called to the British representatives here asking that a second cruiser be sent to Hayti to protect British interests.

Private advices state that a few days ago an attempt was made to assassinate President Simon, but the plot failed.

BAD FEELING IN MEXICO

Americans Angered by Acquittal of Man Who Shot J. M. Reed.

Mexico City, Feb. 25.—Sebastian Varela, a gardener, who shot and killed James M. Reed, a native of Houston, last November soon after the anti-American disturbances here, was acquitted of culpability yesterday by a jury. The prisoner was not released, pending further formalities.

It is said that an American Embassy will file a protest against the finding.

James Farrell, an American mining engineer, was sentenced not long ago to ten years' imprisonment in Guadalupe, Zacatecas, for murder, when the facts appeared to show that Farrell had taken no active part in the crime, and the acquittal of Varela has caused much unfavorable comment among the American population in Mexico.

Reed was shot while resisting arrest, according to witnesses of the affair, on a downtown street late at night. Although he appeared to have been drinking, he was said to have been without weapons. The killing was described as having been without justification.

GREAT TRIAL TO OPEN SOON

That of Camorrist Leaders May Last a Year.

Viterbo, Italy, Friday, Feb. 17.—This historic town, called by ancient writers "The City of Heroes, Fortresses and Beautiful Women," has not been a centre of such interest as now since the thirteenth century, when the conclave which resulted in the election of Theobald de Visconti as Gregory X met in the Episcopal Palace here and continued in session for two years and nine months, during which time it was the scene of unending violence and bloodshed, and the murdered being the English Prince Henry.

At the present time it is a criminal trial instead of a conclave which attracts the interest of the whole world. The leaders of the dreaded Neapolitan Camorra are about to be judged, and the case may rival in duration the conclave of 1271, with the difference that while then the people removed the roof of the Episcopal Palace to force the cardinals to come to a decision, there is now no way, according to Italian legislation, to shorten procedure of the courts.

It is expected that the trial will occupy one year. Unless there is a postponement it will open on March 1. Already throngs of interested ones are making arrangements for accommodations in the town, and the authorities are busy perfecting elaborate police and military precautions against interference on the part of thousands of friends of the forty-one prisoners, many of them desperate men. The testimony of four hundred and fifty witnesses has been prepared by the state. No one knows to what revelations this testimony may lead or what ramifications it will have in the politics of the Camorra may lay bare.

The voluminous documents in the case reveal a story more engaging than romance. It is the result of four years of police work. It shows that Genaro Cuocolo, on whose murder the case was built, was not only a notorious criminal, but a rival in the Camorra of the alleged head, Emilio Alfano, also known as Ericuccio. His body, bearing many stab wounds, was found at Torre del Greco, a suburb of Naples, on June 7, 1906. He appeared to have died in a duel, but there were no signs of the dancing pumps of the handsomeness and well-dressed victim, though the Venetian dress was deep and about the face it was plain that he had been brought to the place, and so murder was established. Identification failed until a certain Cavalier Cuocolo recognized the body as that of his nephew, his brother's son.

"He was bound to finish like this," the uncle exclaimed. "Ever since his boyhood he had gone from light to light, from light to light, and was anything but an honor to his family. His father died of a broken heart. Genaro soon dissipated his conspicuous fortune and almost ruined his younger brother. He was intemperate and received 39 fractures a month, which should have enabled him to live decently, but he continued to follow his evil ways to the point of marrying a woman of doubtful character, Maria Cuttelli, who was a beauty of the people called 'The beautiful Sorrentina,' as she came from Sorrento. It must be she who has involved him in some new infamy in which he has lost his life."

The body, horribly mutilated, of "The beautiful Sorrentina" was found in the very apartment, a few streets from the royal palace. Then was begun a police inquiry that uncovered the greatest criminal conspiracy of modern times, and which led unquestionably to the assassination of the New York detective, Lieutenant Joseph Petrosino.

AMERICAN WEDS IN LONDON.

London, Feb. 25.—George Richmond M. Smith, of Detroit, and Miss Violet Heyber, of this city, were married at St. George's Church, Manover Square, today.

AUSTRIAN WOMEN WANT VOTE.

Vienna, Feb. 16.—The discussions on woman suffrage have now spread to Vienna, and petitions are being presented to Parliament praying that women may be allowed to become members of the political unions. Among such petitions is one presented by the Austrian Women's Association and bearing many thousand signatures. The general opinion in parliamentary circles is that the petitions will be favorably considered, but that from joining the political unions to acquiring the right to vote is a very long step.

BRIARD AND CABINET

TO LEAVE OFFICE

Radical Socialists Succeed in Their Plot to Oust the French Premier.

HIS POSSIBLE SUCCESSOR

Resignations To Be Presented on Monday—The Prime Minister Weary of Struggle—His Career.

[By Cable to The Tribune.]
Paris, Feb. 25.—Premier Briard and his Cabinet will resign on Monday. His retention of office has been made impossible by the carefully prepared hostility of the important group of Radical Socialists, who for the last three months have been cutting the ground from under M. Briard's feet and nullifying all his measures, voted grudgingly after the revolutionary railroad strike of last October.

The Radical Socialists made their grand attack last evening, accusing M. Briard of being in complicity with the Clericals, and, under the lead of MM. Combes, Berteaux, Cruppi and Calliaux, have thus played successfully a part not unlike that of the insurgent Republicans in the United States.

They have a last succeeded in bringing about M. Briard's resignation, which will be handed to President Fallieres on Monday, immediately after the funeral of General Brun, the Minister of War, a funeral which is, metaphorically, that of M. Briard's Cabinet.

The Premier is suffering from ill health and has no wish to remain in office. Although by French parliamentary tradition he still retains a sufficient technical majority to do so—M. Combes at one time accomplished the trick with a majority of only nine votes—M. Briard has in the most dignified way decided to quit, thus showing that his respect for his own dignity and principles is greater than his desire to retain his portfolio of Prime Minister.

M. Delcasse's name, after the ovation accorded him in the Chamber yesterday, is on every one's lips as the possible successor to Aristide Briard, but such a choice on the part of President Fallieres is regarded by those best informed as practically out of the question.

"King" Patout and the members of the General Confederation of Labor and the revolutionary trade union societies, which organized the railroad strike last October, are already rejoicing and celebrating M. Briard's downfall.

[By The Associated Press.]

Premier Briard and the members of his Cabinet reached their decision to resign this afternoon at a conference in the Premier's office, when the political situation was thoroughly canvassed from beginning to end. The bare majority of sixteen which the government received last night in a vote of confidence in the Chamber of Deputies, following the Premier's arraignment by the Radical Socialists, Louis Malvy and Paul Meunier, was a sore blow to the Premier and his associates, who had been sustained many times in previous crises by much larger votes. In the end, M. Briard said that he was "sick of it all."

There is much uncertainty tonight whether President Fallieres, after taking counsel with the leaders of the parliamentary groups, will ask M. Briard to stay in power. There is also wide conjecture regarding whom he may invite to form a new ministry. Leon Bourgeois, former Premier and ex-Minister of Foreign Affairs; Raymond Poincaré, ex-Minister of Finance; Théophile Delcasse, ex-Foreign Minister, and the former Premier, Emile Combes, are among the names mentioned, although it is understood that M. Delcasse is personally not liked by the President of the republic.

Alarm Among Conservatives.

The decision of the ministry to withdraw has created a great political sensation. The conservative newspapers are sounding a note of alarm. They say that the forces of extreme radicalism are triumphing over sane and progressive reform regarding the clerical issue, which was raised yesterday as a mere pretext to attain M. Briard's downfall. They point out that it is ridiculous to accuse the man who constructed the separation law of Clericalism, and now that the Church and State are completely divorced M. Briard has been merely following out a general programme of "appeasement."